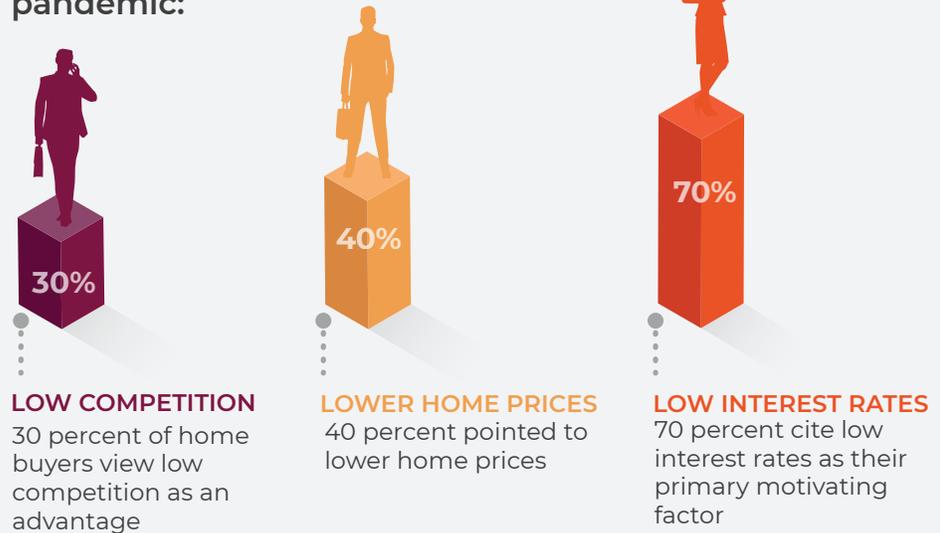


According to a survey by personal finance website The Simple Dollar:



..... **NEARLY ONE-THIRD** of Americans believe 2020 is an ideal time to buy a home

Of those who believe this year is a good time to buy despite the coronavirus pandemic:



“It is clear that high unemployment rates are not holding some homebuyers back from purchasing homes right now. Interest rates are historically low — even under 3 percent in many cases — and buyers want to take advantage of those rates,” The Simple Dollar financial writer Angelica Leicht said in a release. “Homebuyers who want to purchase a home right now should assess their situation and make sure it’s financially viable before committing, of course, but if it is, the current mortgage rates are a steal.”

Fifty-one percent of survey respondents said 2020 is not the right time to buy a home. Forty-one percent of those cited economic and market uncertainty; 25 percent said it is not the right time to buy a home due to job loss/income reduction; and 21 percent attributed the decision to not enough down payment.

“While interest rates are extremely low right now, it makes sense that a large number of buyers would be hesitant to purchase a home in the midst of the pandemic,” Leicht said. “COVID-19 has caused economic uncertainty for much of the nation, and people are naturally going to shy away from making such a large purchase if they’re concerned about job stability or finances.

“However, the buyers who do feel financially stable enough to take advantage of the current record-breaking rates are going to save a ton of money on interest over the long term,” she said.